

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
EDUCATION/LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES**

DATE: November 16, 2010

TIME: 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM

LOCATION: Department of General Services
Elihu Harris State Building
1515 Clay Street, Suite 113
Oakland, CA 94612
Phone: 510-622-2564

PRESENT: Catherine M. Todero, PhD, RN, Chair
Judy Corless, BSN, RN

NOT PRESENT: Dian Harrison, MSW, Public Member
Richard L. Rice, Public Member

STAFF PRESENT: Louise Bailey, MEd, RN, Interim EO; Badrieh Caraway, MS, MEd, RN; Miyo Minato, MN, RN, NEC; Katie Daugherty, MN, RN, NEC; Kelly McHan, MPH, RN; Leslie Moody, MEd, MSN, RN, NEC; Geri Nibbs, MN, RN, NEC; Shelley Ward, MPH, RN; Janette Wackerly, MBA, RN, NEC; Heidi Goodman, AEO; Bobbi Pierce, Licensing Manager; Julie Campbell-Warnock, Research Program Specialist.

Dr. Catherine Todero called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM. Committee members introduced themselves. Dr. Todero announced that due to the committee not having a quorum, the committee will meet as a subcommittee to discuss agenda items but no actions to be taken.

9.0 ACCEPTANCE OF September 22, 2010 MINUTES.

Editorial corrections were suggested to the Minutes of September 22, 2010. Acceptance of minutes deferred.

Public input: None

9.1 RATIFY MINOR CURRICULUM REVISION

- 9.1.1 Azusa Pacific University, Nurse Practitioner Program
- 9.1.2 Azusa Pacific University, Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program and Baccalaureate Degree Nursing program
- 9.1.3 California State University, Dominguez Hills, Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.4 California State University, Sacramento, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.5 California State University, Stanislaus, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.6 West Coast University, Inland Empire, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.7 West Coast University, Los Angeles, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.8 West Coast University, Orange County, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.9 Chabot College, Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.10 Kaplan College, Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.11 Moorpark College, Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.12 Pierce College, Associate Degree Nursing Program

9.1.13 Sacramento City College, Associate Degree Nursing Program

Progress Report:

9.1.13 California State University, Dominguez Hills, Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program

9.1.14 Charles Drew University, Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program

9.1.15 West Coast University, Inland Empire, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program

9.1.16 Grossmont College, Associate Degree Nursing Program

9.1.17 Palomar College, Associate Degree Nursing Program

9.1.18 San Diego City College, Associate Degree Nursing Program

9.1.19 Unitek College, LVN to RN Associate Degree Nursing Program

M. Minato, NEC, presented this report.

Public input: None

9.2 MAJOR CURRICULUM REVISION

9.2.1 College of the Canyons (COC) Associate Degree Nursing Program

Diane Morey, RN, MSN, PhD, is the Interim Program Director represented the program.

B. Caraway, NEC, presented this report. The COC ADN Program submitted major curriculum changes that included revision of the philosophy, conceptual framework, and course outcomes, requiring changes in all courses. The conceptual framework is based on the nursing meta-paradigm of person, health, environment and nursing, and the sub-concepts of inquiry and caring were expanded to include six areas related to critical thinking, professionalism, leadership, patient centered care, safety, and communication. The program incorporated QSEN competencies into this revision. Their clinical evaluation tool was changed to show different levels of competencies in assigning clinical grades.

All nursing courses were given new course titles and numbers. The total units for content required for licensure remain at 61 units including: 39 Nursing Units (21 theory; 18 clinical); 6 Communication Units; 16 Science Units. The program plans to implement these changes in Spring 2011.

Dr. Todero asked for additional information on the use of the program's new evaluation tool that was changed from pass/fail grading to assigning a letter grade.

Public input: None

9.3 CONTINUE APPROVAL OF PRELICENSURE NURSING PROGRAM

9.3.1 National University (NU), Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program

Mary Kracun, PhD, RN is the Chair and Director of the program and represented the program.

L. Moody, NEC, presented this report. NU started the prelicensure BSN degree nursing program at their San Diego (main) campus in September 2005. In the summer of 2007, the program received approval to establish extended campuses in Los Angeles and Fresno to admit 20 students biannually at each location. The Fresno campus accepted their first student cohort of 15 students in November 2008. This first cohort was to complete the program in September 2010. At the time of the visit there were 11 students remaining in the first cohort, 16 (originally 19) in the second cohort, 17 (originally 19) in the third cohort and 19 (originally 20) in the fourth cohort for a total of 63 active students at the Fresno campus. There are not yet any NCLEX scores to report for the Fresno students.

A Continuing Approval Visit was conducted by M. Minato, NEC, on July 21-22, 2008 to the San Diego main campus, as part of the initial approval follow up, at which time there were no areas of non-compliance but recommendations were made in the areas of 1424(b) Total Program Evaluation, 1424(d)

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Sufficiency of Resources and 1426(b) Curriculum. The school submitted a progress report in May 2010 which reported significant progress in all areas of recommendation identified during the July 2008 visit.

On July 7, 2010 an e-mail was submitted anonymously to the BRN from a Fresno campus student which enumerated multiple areas of concern regarding the conduct of the program. Dr. Kracun was contacted and the August 11, 2010 date was set for a focus meeting. On August 9, 2010 a second anonymous complaint was sent to the BRN stating similar concerns. M. Minato and L. Moody, NECs, made a site visit to the National University Fresno Campus.

During the August 11, 2010 visit, meetings were held with the program director, assistant director, dean of the school, faculty, and students, and a tour of the skills labs was conducted. All participants were frank in their discussions of the program. Strengths identified by faculty and students included flexibility of course schedules, dedication of many faculty and the strength of Dr. Moore. There were six areas of non-compliance and three areas of recommendations in the Report of Findings. These findings were discussed at length with Drs. Kracun, Moore, and LaCourt at the summary exit meeting.

Dr. Kracun submitted an action plan addressing each item of non-compliance and recommendation resulting from this visit, and significant progress has been made in keeping with the plan presented. Compliance was demonstrated in regards to faculty qualifications, resources, including furnishing/supplying and availability of the skills lab to students and ensuring availability of student advising/tutoring and other support resources. The school is implementing their plan to strengthen activities in the areas of faculty responsibility for curriculum, student participation, plan for evaluation, and clinical performance evaluation which shows substantial progress toward full compliance. Additional follow up would be useful to confirm full implementation and effectiveness of the plan of correction.

Dr. Todero asked questions related to student admission and attrition, pre-entrance requirements, and faculty staffing, including faculty responsibilities. Dr. Kracun provided the figures and reported hiring of full-time faculty since the Board visit and that the program is continuing to recruit faculty. Dr. Kracun shared that their investigation revealed that the email was sent by one of their staff on behalf of the students, and that the administration was supportive with the changes needed to correct resource needs. The school is considering monetary incentives to increase attendance of part-time faculty at faculty meetings.

Public input: None

9.3.2 College of San Mateo Associate Degree Nursing Program

Jane McAteer, M.S.N., RN, Program Director, represented the program.

Kay Weinkam, NEC, presented this report. A regularly scheduled continuing approval visit was conducted by NECs K. McHan and K. Weinkam on April 26-28, 2010.

The program was found to be in non-compliance with CCR Section 1427(a)(c) Clinical Facilities. Three recommendations were made in the following sections: CCR sections 1424(f) Administration and Organization of the Nursing Program; 1427(c) Clinical Facilities; and 1429(b) Licensed Vocational Nurses.

The program responded to the area of non-compliance and corrective actions have been taken. Construction of a new state-of-the-art Allied Health and Wellness building which will house the nursing program is nearly complete. The building boasts dedicated smart classrooms and a spacious skills lab with multiple patient care beds and two simulation rooms, which will be used in fall 2010. High fidelity

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simulators including SimMan and SimBaby as well as a new G-3 simulator will be used, also, fall 2010. The NCLEX average for academic year 2009 is 83%.

Dr. Todero asked about their attrition rate and asked to what they attributed the decrease in rate. Their hiring a Student Success Coordinator, use of pre admission TEAS, and the science course requirements have helped to reduce attrition. J. Corless asked for information related to use of ATI, which the program has started using consistently starting in fall 2010.

Public input: None

9.3.3 Long Beach City College, Associate Degree Nursing Program

Deborah Chow RN, MSN, FNP, the ADN Program Director/Department Head of the program effective October 18, 2010, represented the program.

S. Ward, NEC, presented this report. A continuing approval visit was conducted in October 2009. Two (2) areas of non-compliance and two (2) recommendations were issued at the time of the visit. The Board action at the February 26, 2010 meeting was to “Defer action to continue approval of Long Beach City College Associate Degree Nursing Program. The Program was to submit a final progress report for the October 2010 ELC meeting.” The program submitted a final progress report in October 2010 updating actions taken as stated in the original report to the ELC and the Board.

During 2007 and 2008 Chancellor’s Office funding combined with local agency collaboration increased student admissions by an additional (30) students a semester beyond the more customary number of 60-64. The students in that cohort graduated in May 2010. Faculty with the support of administration, determined that the number of admissions would be (60) students/semester in fall 2010 and spring 2011. NCLEX scores for the 2009-2010 academic year is at 98.18%

Section 1 – CCR 1424(e) - Program Director/Assistant Director: The Program Director/Department Head position was at 60% release/reassigned time and the Assistant Director’s was 0% at the time of the visit. The Program Director’s release time has been increased to 90% which represents 60% for Program Director responsibilities and 30% for Department Head functions. The Assistant Director’s release/reassigned time has been established at 20%.

Section 3- CCR 1424(d) – Sufficiency of Resources: Faculty: There were 13 full-time (including the program director), and 24 part-time faculty at the time of the visit. The program reports that there are twelve (12) full-time faculty, and that seven (7) part-time faculty are being utilized at this time. A full-time faculty position was added in fall 2009. The position was filled, however was recently vacated. The administration approved a full-time faculty one-year contract position in fall 2010. Recruitment is underway for this position. The department is submitting a request through the college hiring priorities process to obtain additional faculty members. A faculty member on 60% reassigned time returned to a full-time assignment in spring 2010.

- Faculty Office Space: The program has identified an additional space for faculty/student consultation that can also be used as a study space. The faculty was provided with the option of requesting office space in other campus building locations. There have been no requests to move to another building.
- Classroom Space: The program has the option of using space outside of the C- building which houses the nursing program when necessary. The plans remain in place to complete the expansion and renovation of the C-building as previously targeted by 2014. The C- building classrooms have been upgraded with white boards, hospital curtains, head walls and mid-fidelity mannequins.

- **Clerical Support:** Budget constraints have prevented hiring additional positions. Services were reorganized to decrease time being utilized for general inquiries by the public, to increase time available to support other department needs. The department has also updated the web page providing more information to potential applicants which has resulted in decreasing the in person visits that the clerical staff were responding to. The new office structure dedicates twenty-five (25) hours for direct service for faculty needs. There was a recent clerical staff member departure with position replacement approved. The position will be filled temporarily until recruitment of a full-time replacement is accomplished. The newly appointed director has access to other administrative assistance and considers the changes to be adequate to support role functions.

The program also submitted updates on progress with recommendations in the area of curriculum consistent with plans identified in the initial response to the ELC.

Dr. Todero asked for information related to faculty numbers and a number of students in the program. D. Chow provided the requested figures but indicated to verify the numbers from the visit before she could provide the figures. Dr. Todero requested the faculty FTEs when the program had the continuing approval visit and the current FTE for faculty be provided for the November 17 Board Meeting.

Public input: None

9.3.4 Mt. San Jacinto College, Associate Degree Nursing Program

Dr. Judy Gentry, Director of the R.N. Program, represented the program.

S. Ward, NEC, presented this report. A Continuing Approval Visit was conducted in May 2008. Six (6) areas of non-compliance and four (4) recommendations were issued. The program has been in a defer action to continue approval status since September 2008. A progress report submitted by the program in August 2009 was not deemed sufficient by the BRN consultant assigned at that time. An interim visit was conducted in May 2010. The program submitted an updated progress report in June 2010, which was accepted by the consultant as complete in October 2010. A regular cycle interim visit is due in spring 2012.

There have been many changes in program administrative positions since the time of the continuing approval visit. A new Dean and program director were appointed in the summer of 2010. The program and college administration have been proactive in addressing the areas of non-compliance and the recommendations subsequent to the interim visit.

This summary intends to reflect the more salient points related to the areas of non-compliance, however, does not represent the full body of work presented by the program.

1. CCR section 1425.1 (a) Faculty: The program has fully implemented the major curriculum revision that was initiated in fall 2007. Faculty discussed the challenges the phased implementation approach presented during the interim visit. Revised descriptions for all faculty positions reflect role and responsibility for curriculum. A minor curriculum revision has been submitted consistent with implementing faculty role and responsibility.

2. CCR section 1424(b)(1) Total Program Evaluation Plan NCLEX scores: 2007-2008 (85.14%); 2009-2010 (96.00%) Attrition is reported as < 7%, and ranged from 7.0% in Sp08 (highest level) to 1.0% in Sp10.

A few of the changes based on program evaluation activities include:

- The Associate Faculty Evaluation tool was implemented.
- The End of Semester Course Report Summary was developed/implemented.
- The Total Program Evaluation Plan was revised.

- Improvements in communication and processes occurred, such as student tracking systems used between the nursing program, the student success counselor and the counseling department.

3. CCR section 1424 (d) – Insufficient/Inadequate Resources: The program reports that there are (108) total students currently in the program. There are eight (8) full-time (including the program director), and twelve (12) part-time faculty.

- Administrative: A full-time Dean of Nursing and Allied Health position was filled representing a new position in the organizational structure at the College.
- Faculty: The Director of the ADN Program position responsibilities were significantly reorganized. Assistant Director position allocations increased from one to two. Two new full-time faculty positions were added. One of the positions has been filled and the recruitment for the other is in progress. There has been no loss of other full-time faculty positions.
- Staff Services: A full-time Administrative Assistant has been designated to work exclusively with the ADN program. There is a full-time Instructional Aide responsible for classroom equipment, ordering supplies, maintaining skills lab and room scheduling.
- Support Services: The Nursing Student Success Advisor position has increased from 21-35 hours/week. The Nursing Program Enrollment Specialist position has increased from 19-35 hours a week. Grant funds facilitate tutoring, labs and learning centers.
- Learning/Skills Lab: There is a full-time faculty member responsible. Days of operation were expanded to include Sat. The number of part-time faculty available increased from (2) to (10). Students reported satisfaction with skills lab services/ resources. Total physical space in the lab is at a premium. The college continues to prioritize the master plan for space allocation for the nursing program.

4. CCR section 1424(e) - Insufficient Director's Release Time: At the time of the continuing approval visit the Interim Dean/Program Director position was vacant. The Dean of Instruction, Career and Technical Education was assigned the additional responsibility for the nursing and allied health programs, and also served as the ADN Program Director. The revised Director of the R.N. Program Job Description provides for 50% reassigned time for program administration with the remaining 50% to provide instruction in the ADN program. The revised Assistant Director Job Description provides for 20% reassigned time.

5. CCR section 1424 (g) Faculty Responsibility: Faculty revised the clinical evaluation tools. The Associate Faculty are required to attend pre-semester orientation and to communicate weekly with lead faculty. Students reported that part-time faculty are knowledgeable about the curriculum and communicating with lead course instructors.

6. CCR section 1424(h) – Content Expert:

The program has a content expert in all areas including mental health/psychiatric nursing. The program has defined written position responsibilities for the content experts who are members of the curriculum committee.

The program also responded to all recommendations and outlined future plans for faculty positions.

Dr. Todero asked for information related to student attrition data and faculty data, including FTEs and administrative release time, and information was provided by Dr. Gentry. The program has been successful in reducing the attrition rate, which is reported as less than 7%. J. Corless asked for clarification on their new Associate Faculty Evaluation Tool and asked for a copy of the tool, which was provided to the committee.

Public input: None

9.4 LICENSING PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND STATISTICS

Bobbi Pierce, Lead Program Analyst presented this report. On October 6, 2010, B. Pierce provided overview to new nursing directors attending the California Organization of Associate Degree Nursing Program Directors meeting. The topics presented included: the Individual Candidate Roster and how to complete the required information; the need for the program to provide a worksheet that reflects completed pre-requisite course work that was completed at other colleges/universities and was used to satisfy the programs requirements; and the Board no longer accepts applications without a U.S. Social Security Number (SSN). This presentation was also given to existing directors later in the day and in both sessions there were a number of questions and answers that were provided to the participants.

Statistics:

The Department of Consumer Affairs, in conjunction with the Board, continues to provide statistical reports to the Governor's Office and the State and Consumer Services Agency on a monthly basis for the Licensing and Job Creation Report. This project has been on-going since January 2010 and the Board has been an active participant in meeting the goals of the program to contribute towards California's job growth through expeditious and efficient processing of professional pending examination and licensing applications.

The statistics for the last two fiscal years and the first four months of Fiscal Year 2010/11 are attached. You will note that there is a decrease in the number of applications for examination, repeaters, and endorsement during the last two fiscal years. It is believed that this is due to the economic slowdown and the Board's no longer accepting applications that do not include a SSN.

Dr. Todero commented that there is a significant drop in the number of applications received, which has occurred following the change in the procedure related to SS requirement. This trend is seen also with the drop in the international applicants.

Public input: None

9.5 NCLEX-RN PASS RATES UPDATE

K. Daugherty, NEC, presented this report. The Board of Registered Nursing receives quarterly reports from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) about the NCLEX-RN test results by quarter and with an annual perspective. The following tables show this information for 12 months and by each quarter.

NCLEX RESULTS – FIRST TIME CANDIDATES

October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010**

JURISDICTION	TOTAL TAKING TEST	PERCENT PASSED %
California	11,367	87.90
United States and Territories	140,604	87.56

CALIFORNIA NCLEX RESULTS – FIRST TIME CANDIDATES

By Quarters and October 1, 2009-September 30, 2010**

10/01/09- 12/31/10		1/01/10 3/31/10		4/01/10 6/30/10**		7/1/10 9/30/10		10/01/09- 9/30/10	
# cand.	% pass	# cand.	% pass	# cand.	% pass	# cand.	% pass	# cand.	% pass
988	84.72	3,840	89.79	2,114	89.92	4,425	86.01	11,367	87.90

*Includes (8), (9), (6) & (6) "re-entry" candidates.

ELC Committee
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*** 2010 NCLEX-RN Test Plan and a higher passing standard (-0.16 logits) were implemented April 1, 2010.*

9.6 PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

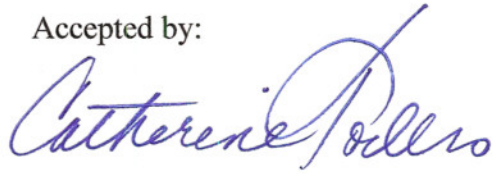
Meeting adjourned at 11:59 AM

Submitted by:



Miyo Minato, MN, RN
Nursing Education Consultant

Accepted by:



Catherine M. Todero, PhD, RN
Chairperson